

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

JFW/DP 1674



In re Patent Application of

Merraris et al

Atty. Ref.: 2824-226

Serial No. 09/996,776

Group: 1624

Filed: November 30, 2001

Examiner: KIFLE, B.

For: COMPOUNDS AND THEIR USE

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

October 5, 2004

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

- 1. **PTO-1449 Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(b)**  
[within 3 months of filing or prior to 1st Office Action on the merits]  
N/C
- 2.(a) **Statement Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(c)**  
[before Final Office Action or Allowance (requires Rule 97(e)  
Statement or Rule 17(p) fee)]  
N/C
- 2 .(b) **Fee Payment Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(c)**  
[before Final Office Action or Allowance (requires Rule 97(e)  
Statement or Rule 17(p) fee)]  
\$180.00
- 3. **Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(d)**  
[after Final Office Action or Allowance (requires Rule 97(e)  
Statement and Rule 17(p) fee), but before final fee payment]  
\$180.00

The following are submitted in the above-identified application in compliance with  
37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98:

- 4. A list of documents on Form PTO-1449 together with copies of each identified document and a translation or a concise explanation of each non-English language document (such as a Search Report) is

enclosed herewith. The attached European Search Report and Annex mailed August 20, 2004 in connection with EP 01 98 6053 lists the attached and below cited Ames et al and Park et al references. The Search Report further cites WO 99/11624 A, the disclosure of which has been considered by the Examiner in the form of U.S. Patent No. 6,121,278. See, Annex attached to Search Report and PTO 1449 Form signed by the Examiner on 12/19/03. A copy of WO 99/11624 is also attached and listed below.

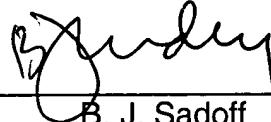
This paper is submitted in accordance with:

- 5. 37 CFR 1.97(b): [within 3 months of filing or prior to 1<sup>st</sup> Office Action]
- 6. 37 CFR 1.97(c): [before Final Office Action or Allowance, whichever is earlier]; and
  - a) The required Statement made in item 8 below; or
  - b) The \$180.00 fee specified in 37 CFR §1.17(p) for submission of this Information Disclosure Statement is authorized in item 9 below.
- 7. 37 CFR §1.97(d): [after Final Office Action or Allowance (requires Rule 97(e) Statement and Rule 17(p) fee), but before final fee payment]; and
  - a) The fee (\$180.00) required by 37 CFR §1.17(p) is submitted herewith; and
  - b) The required Statement is stated in item 8 below.
- 8. Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e)
  - a) The undersigned attorney of record hereby certifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement (each item contained in this IDS was the first citation of that item by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application which occurred no more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS); or
  - b) No item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing this Statement, after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

9. Please charge all deficiency fees associated with the submission of this Information Disclosure Statement and any other fees applicable to this application to Deposit Account No. 14-1140. An original and one (1) copy of this document are enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,  
NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: \_\_\_\_\_



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Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include name of the reference in the continuation of application.

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Form PTO-FB-A820 (Also PTO-1449)